

PRINCE BÜLOW AND HIS MEMOIRS

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a listening world. The Kaiser was delighted to learn that his speech had appeared in its original form, but his mood quickly changed when Bülow pointed out that it would produce a devastating effect on the reputation of a Christian country. The two men sat up talking till midnight, and on parting the Kaiser shook hands, remarking " I know you wish me well, but I am what I am and I cannot change." " You must deal with this in the Reichstag," whispered Hohenlohe to Bülow as he heard the fatal words, " for I cannot." "The Foreign Minister did his best with the inevitable interpellations ; but he could not prevent the foes of Germany in two great wars from describing as Huns " the good and noble German people, the most truly humane in the world."

Next in unhappy celebrity among the Imperial utterances was the declaration at Damascus to " the three hundred million Mohammedans throughout the world" that the German Emperor would at all times be their friend. When the meal was over Bülow instructed the official reporter who accompanied the party to Palestine and Syria that the speech 'must not be published till he had corrected it. The reporter replied that it had already gone, and quoted the orders of the Kaiser himself. A third phrase destined to immortality was the farewell signal " from the Admiral of the Atlantic to the Admiral of the Pacific " after a meeting with the Tsar at Reval. The cool reply was " Good-bye," and the Captain of the *Hoben^plern* promptly gave orders not to divulge the exchange. The Russians had no reason to be discreet, and the story soon appeared in an English paper. The incident was particularly annoying to Bülow who, despite his outspoken criticisms of his master's technique, repeatedly declares that he never indulged in Napoleonic dreams.

Such rhetorical extravagances were merely the expression of temperamental irresponsibility ; but foreigners could not be expected to understand that the last of the Hohenzollerns was an actor, not a man of action, an artist in phrases, not a ruthless megalomaniac. Despite reiterated protests and promises of amendment, he never learned to bridle his tongue.

In addition to the above mentioned slips, and others only a little less known, we learn for the first time in these pages of a letter to Theodore Roosevelt filled with strident vituperation against the Japanese and heated exhortations to his American friend to be on his guard against the Yellow Peril. Not till